

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY
for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 25th
of the month.

A. J. LAMOURUEX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee reports from the *Associação Comercial*, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

(Cash invariably in advance)

Subscription: \$1000 per annum for Brazil,
\$1000 or £2 for abroad.

SINGLE COPIES: 600 reis; for sale at the offices of publication, or in the English Book Store, No. 67 Rua do Ouvidor.

All subscriptions should run with the calendar year.

EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICES:—
79, Rua São de Setembro.

Subscription and advertising accounts will be received by

GEORGE W. PHILIPS, Esq.,
154 Nassau Street, NEW YORK.

MESSRS. STRUTT & CO.,
30 Cornhill, LONDON E. C.

MESSRS. JOHN MILLER & CO.,
São Paulo and Santos.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 15th, 1888.

THE attention of the Sociedade Central de Imigração has recently been invited by Commandador Malvino Reis to a project for the creation of a new credit institution to be known as the "Banco Agrícola do Brazil," in which he proposes to unite merchants and planters for the purpose of providing capital to meet the exigencies caused by the transformation of labor. We do not know what action the society will take in this matter, but as the friend and protector of the poor immigrant who has only his hands with which to gain a livelihood, there ought to be but one choice. The creation of credit institutions to protect existing proprietors and perpetuate antiquated conditions of industry and society is clearly an error and is highly injurious to the future welfare of the immigrant. If this be true, as we claim, then the society must clearly oppose every proposition of that character. We will lay down the position, which no one will dispute, that the greater the number of its people who can be made self-supporting and prosperous, the richer and stronger will the country be. A few rich proprietors do not represent the strength of a nation, like a great mass of thriving, well-to-do people of a middle class. What we need in Brazil, therefore, is a large class of small planters, tradesmen, mechanics, etc., who will be proprietors and taxpayers, and who will be deeply interested in the protection of life and property, the maintenance of schools, the creation of roads, bridges, etc., and the intelligent development of agriculture and skilled industries. Agricultural credit institutions, created for the relief of embarrassed planters, will never accomplish this result. The new lever for the uplifting of this country is labor, and not credit. As long as the improvident debtor can command credit he will never economise, but when he has only the choice between work and retrenchment on the one side, and bankruptcy on the other, then we may see what mettle there is in him. If he has the right kind of spirit he will need little of this artificial credit; if not, then he will go to the wall, as he should. The tendency of all these instrumentalities is to foster unworthy men and perpetuate unsound enterprises and practices. There will always be found private sources of credit for good men and good enterprises, so that, as a rule, no great loss can result from the absolute withdrawal of state and corporate aid in such channels. If there be any real need of national aid, let it be in the providing of markets for the products of labor,

rather than the loan of cash on probabilities or eventualities. The unfortunate may appeal to our charity, but embarrassed wealth may well be left to its own resources. We trust that the immigration society will give this question its earliest consideration and then let us know how far it is in accord with this attractive idea of borrowing one's self rich.

THE reappearance of cholera in the Argentine Republic, as announced by the *Nacion* of Buenos Aires on the 12th, should lead the sanitary authorities of this city to at once put their affairs in order. We do not refer to purely quarantine regulations and the expenditure of more money at Ilha Grande, but to the proper cleaning and inspection of the dangerous districts of this city. At the present moment the city is exceptionally healthy for this time of the year, water is abundant though imperfectly distributed, and the principal streets are moderately clean. There are still some dangerous *cortigos* in the thickly-settled districts where cholera, or any other infectious disease, would quickly get a foothold, and there are localities where the streets and dwellings are in a dangerously filthy condition. These should at once be put in order. There is also a great defect in the proper drainage of the low-lying district of Cidade Nova, which might prove serious in case of epidemic. The correction of this defect has been agreed upon by the authorities directly interested, but is embargoed by others who appear to be more anxious to preserve all the "red-tape" formalities of the departments than to improve the sanitary condition of the city. The serious experiences of the past year with small-pox ought to be a lesson to the authorities that delays in such matters are fatally dangerous. Attention was early called to the existence of that disease in various parts of the city, but not one step was taken to check it until it was practically beyond control. And the result was a loss of considerably over three thousand lives. There may be no way to fix the responsibility for such negligence, but it is a public crime of the most aggravated character. We may now be in no great danger of a cholera invasion, but it is quite as necessary to put the city in a proper sanitary condition as though that dreaded disease had actually crossed our frontiers.

THE manifest increase of crime in this country, as shown by the daily reports of savage murders and assaults from the provinces, is a matter which ought to arrest serious attention. Crime is of course to be found everywhere, and in its most revolting phases. But it will be difficult, in our opinion, to find a country where assassination is more common than in Brazil, and where so little attention is given to it. Hardly a mail comes from the north, or from the south, which does not bring accounts of murders, unparalleled in savage ferocity and brutality. And yet, no one seems to feel the slightest interest in the matter, as long as the victims are strangers. Even the press reproduces the particulars of these crimes without a note of comment. We do not like to charge that this belays a lack of interest in the general well-being of society and in the good name of the country, nor that it discloses an indifference for human life which is rarely found among civilized nations. And yet, what else can we say? The columns of the native press are witnesses to the truth of our assertion, and they fail to show either an aroused public sentiment for the suppression of these crimes, or a swift enforcement of the law against the criminals. The truth is, we are living in an age of mawkish sentimentality in regard to the punishment of criminals. And the more atrocious the

crime, the stronger this sentiment appears in favor of the criminal. Not only are there foolish women who stand ready to crown these monsters with flowers, but there are equally foolish men who, in the name of justice and humanity, put every obstacle in the way of meting out punishment. Justice should never be savage, but she should be impartial and unrelenting. We can not see the consistency of treating a murderer with so much indifference, as though the blood and property of a murdered man were of no account to society and to the state, and then display so much sympathy for the murderer and anxiety that his rights shall not be infringed and that he shall not be unduly punished. Is the life of a criminal then of more account to society than that of a law-abiding citizen? Or is society run on the principle that a live dog is worth more than a dead lion? Under present conditions, life and property are clearly not protected in Brazil. And the frequency of crimes and the rapid increase of those classes from which so many criminals come, leads to the conclusion that men must either take the execution of justice into their own hands, or the laws and courts must be roused from the lethargy into which they have fallen. The jury has become a broad farce in the courts of justice, if not the open protector and defender of criminals. The bench, too, has become weak and venal, too dependent upon political changes to be impartial and efficient. And the whole machinery of justice is clearly so complicated and so slow in its operation as to be almost practically useless. It is time certainly that the whole system should be thoroughly overhauled and reformed.

[Continued from our last.]

THE PAST YEAR.

The progress made in the emancipation of slavery in Brazil during 1887 forms one of the most interesting chapters in the year's history, and is certainly a very hopeful promise for the future. Upon the adoption of the Saraiva-Cotegipe law of 1885, it was announced by the government and its pro-slavery supporters that this would positively be the last step taken to accelerate the extinction of slavery. This law in reality effected very little toward that end, beyond the liberation of a few thousand sexagenarians, while in other respects it was manifestly less liberal than the law of 1871. During the ensuing year, while the registry of existing slaves was being effected and while the Cotegipe cabinet was able to maintain discipline in the ranks of its supporters, no further step toward emancipation was taken. The abolitionists had nearly all been kept out of the Chamber, public meetings had been in a measure suppressed, and an appearance of determined coercion was maintained. Early in 1887 it became apparent that the planters were neglecting to register their slaves, and also that irregularities were being practised which might occasion trouble. The registry closed at the end of March and, though no official report has yet been made, enough is known to make it certain that the number of slaves registered will not exceed 700,000, instead reaching 1,000,000 as estimated. Controversies have since arisen over the legality of registering slaves through a third party, and of describing them as of "unknown parentage," the first decisions of the then minister of agriculture (Antonio Prado) being against such entries. Since then, under his successor (Rodrigo Silva) these decisions have been reversed, and the government has persistently used its authority to protect the slave-holder. An active and aggressive abolition society in Campos has brought about several conflicts during the year. In Rio Grande do Sul a general

movement occurred in favor of liberation on conditions of time service, through which the number of slaves in that province was greatly reduced. It was in S. Paulo, however, that the most significant and important emancipatory movement has occurred. Up to the middle of the year very little progress had been made in that province, although a small band of abolitionists in the provincial capital had been doing some very effective work in the release of irregularly held slaves. The redemption of the city of Santos, however, opened an asylum for fugitives, and the successful escape and concealment of slaves soon aroused widespread consternation. In July the emancipation movement made rapid progress. In August the government took the stand that slaves registered as of "unknown parentage" were not *ipso facto* free, notwithstanding the decisions of the courts, and this led to popular demonstrations in many places, and to a prohibition of public meetings in this city. The efforts made by government supporters to secure an excuse for this measure, led to contradictory petitions from Campinas, S. Paulo, which gave the occasion for a declaration from Senator Antonio Prado in favor of a definite and speedier emancipation. The occasion and lack of organization prevented legislative action, but from that time the movement in S. Paulo has gone on rapidly increasing until at the end of the year the planters were freeing their slaves spontaneously by hundreds. This has been made easier by the large number of immigrants received during the year, some 34,000, which has tended to allay fears about a labor crisis on the plantations. It is now seen, also, that when S. Paulo becomes free, her territory will become a haven for fugitives from other provinces and her labor market will always be full. In Rio de Janeiro, however, the planters are trying to check the movement, and with the result that they will suffer all the more severely in the end.

The number of immigrants received in the country during the year has been largely in excess of any previous year's record, owing principally to the active propaganda made in Europe by the planters of S. Paulo. The books of the provincial *hospedaria* at the capital show that 34,310 had registered there during the year. The total number arriving in the empire will probably exceed 45,000. There have been no changes in their status in the country, other than those growing out of a better appreciation of the value of free labor, but it is confidently hoped that a public sentiment is now being developed which will in a brief period result in such changes as will improve their opportunities for gaining a livelihood and bettering their condition. The Prado land law project failed during the last session, but the question is not yet settled.

There has been a very noteworthy advance in public opinion during the year in regard to such changes in the political institutions of the country as will give a greater measure of local autonomy. The project for municipal government reform did not receive much attention in the last General Assembly, but the sentiment was frequently expressed in other discussions that this and another affecting the administration of the provinces must be seriously considered at no very distant day. In the province of São Paulo, a secession movement has attracted some attention during the year, and, though not numerically strong, it must be considered as one indication of the direction in which the current of public sentiment is setting. Great dissatisfaction has frequently been expressed in Rio Grande do Sul and Pará over the drain of revenue from those provinces to the imperial capital, and over the delays and blunders made in administering local affairs from so great a distance and through

officials representing the general government. If São Paulo now unites with these distant provinces in demanding local government and a fair division of the public revenues, the general government will have to yield. Aside from the "separatista" movement in São Paulo, it is well known that a great majority of the younger men of that province are determined to secure this reform, and should the present emancipation sentiment lead to the abolition of slavery there during the current year—as is more than probable—another pretext will arise for a large measure of decentralization. São Paulo will be justly unwilling to bear any share in the burdens of a taxation destined to protect and support the reactionary, slave-holding provinces, and she will have the power and influence to enforce her will.

(To be continued.)

RETROSPECT FOR 1887.

Extracted from the *Jornal do Comércio*, Jan. 9th.

We believe we are faithfully translating the general commercial feeling at the close of 1887, in considering this as signifying greater confidence in the future of the country. The terrible problem, whose near, inevitable solution dispirited the most audacious spirits, is day by day losing its alarming gravity; the servile element is no longer considered a necessary factor of production, and statistics are incontestably proving the superiority of free labor. The abundant crops of cotton, sugar, rubber in the northern provinces reply with eloquence to the obstructionists, and to the excessively timid.

Industrial activity awakes with energy. Agriculture already recognizes the advantages of a varied production; the cultivation of cane is resuscitated, animated by general sympathy and breathing more freely, since it finds itself relieved of export duties on sugar recently abolished, and already dreams of its wealth in the past. The manufacturing industry is to a considerable extent represented by spinning and weaving mills, which prosper and multiply, stimulating the cultivation of our cotton, abundant in nearly all our provinces and of superior quality.

The expectations of an abundant crop of coffee are confirmed, which notwithstanding the quantity, will find remunerative prices in foreign markets, where consumption was excessively reduced in the past year.

Our especial attention (as to import duties) is called to kerosene. The exorbitant duties weighing on this article, used almost entirely by the poorer classes, had already been pointed out by us as absurd, for they exceeded 100 per cent. Notwithstanding all these considerations, the tariff of 1887 still further increased the import duties on this persecuted article, making each case pay 35045. As a case in New York costs 85 to 90¢, or more or less 13000, kerosene pays under the new tariff at the rate of 160 per cent.

Rice shows a notable increase in the importation of 43,148 bags, which is in truth deplorable for an agricultural country.

The shipments of coffee in 1887 did not exceed 2,241,755 bags, of 60 kilos, against 3,580,965 bags in 1886; that is, they decreased by 1,339,210 bags, or about 37 per cent. Prices, taken as a basis Ordinary first, which averaged 42871 per 10 kilos. in 1886, rose to 78545 in 1887, that is, 35274 on the former price, or over 76% per cent.

The news that the Treasury could keep out of the market for a long time also contributed to the advance in exchange. On April 29th, in fact, it was known that the Treasury had accepted the offer made through the Banco Internacional do Brasil by European bankers to open a credit up to £2,000,000 stg. for a year. This arrangement permitted the Treasury to withdraw from the exchange market for a considerable period and to avoid competition with trade and depressing rates. Taken from this point of view the operation was advantageous to commercial interests. We learn the Treasury did not use the credit for £2,000,000 to which we have referred, and also that the imperial government decided to take over the sum of £810,000, which was due the province of Rio de Janeiro by the sale of the Cantagalo railway to the Leopoldina company, the rate of exchange being fixed at 23%.

In reference to the advances, about 10,000,000\$, made during the year to the Bank of Brazil by the Treasury, the *Jornal* says: "It will be said that it is not worth while to retire paper money to afterwards, in a short time, re-issue it. To say

this, however, it is necessary to confound paper money whose issue costs but the labor of printing the notes, with a circulation that has its own value, because it earns interest, which possesses the requisite of elasticity, because it accompanies the movements of business, and only remains in circulation so long as it is in demand and can be of service, thus not running the risk of depreciation."

FALMEIRAS.

Extract from a letter to the *South American Mail* from Dr. Mansfield, R. N., ex-chief Medical Officer on the South American Station.

Sir—I think it just to offer a few observations for the information of those requiring a *sanitary change* at little expense, and at the convenient distance of two hours train, as I am convinced of the benefit my patients have derived from it. At Palmeiras, in perhaps the shortest period my experience of nearly nineteen years in public service has brought before me, the most evident and rapid improvement in people affected with malarial poisoning fever took place.

The salubrious effect of the climate, (the average heat in the shade being from 82° to 102° Fahr., in the hot season, lower than in the city) the cool and even cold nights, productive of long refreshing sleep, the atmosphere replete with ozone, which is almost at a minimum at times at the littoral of the harbor, except during the sea breeze, lead me, after the study and observation of its effects on over 90 persons under my charge there, to consider it to be one of the best and most accessible resorts for invalids, in the vicinity of Rio.

The moisture is not sufficient to keep one indoors for long, the water is cold and abundant. The climate is almost identical with the military sanitary post of the British government at Jamaica, where are received convalescents affected with the malarial, pernicious and yellow fevers, formerly so widespread in our West Indian and Central American possessions, and I have no hesitation in saying that to such convalescents, or even to those who are "out of sorts," not over-worked, but "over-tilted," a few days change at Palmeiras must produce a new feeling of life. I understand that the imperial government are contemplating the possibility of establishing a *santhorium* there. Should this be the case, it must necessarily save immense expense, as patients will recover as rapidly at Palmeiras as in many days as in so many weeks in the vicinity of the city.

I feel certain that a short sojourn on those hills would often save the expense of a long and ineffectual voyage which people often blindly start on for change of air.

PIERCE MANSFIELD, B. A., M. D.
Master Surgeon and Fellow of the Med. Soc., London.

NOTIFICATION.

To persons interested in claims before the Anglo-Chilian commission of arbitration:

The British Minister in Chile desires to inform all whom it may concern that the work of the Mixed Commission of Arbitration appointed under the Convention of the 4th of January, 1883, to judge the claims deduced by British subjects against the Government of Chile in consequence of the acts and operations of the Chilian forces during the late war with Perú and Bolivia, has been concluded.

The following awards in favor of claimants remain to be satisfied:

No.	Name.	No.	Name.
22.	Philip Rosenthal.	64.	Lebœuf Simpfer.
22.	William S. Stanley.	64.	James Camy.
60.	John J. North.		

The claims in the following list have, in addition, been accepted by the Chilian Government to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in silver. This sum is to be distributed in the manner here given. A deduction of six per cent. (6%) is made on the whole amount by the Chilian Government to defray the expenses of the Commission, and one of five per cent. (5%) by H. M.'s Government to cover the remuneration and expenses of the Agent for claims:

No.	Name.	Amount.
22.	Philip Rosenthal.	91 A. Ruxley 1,239
22.	William S. Stanley.	91 James O'Connor 1,848
22.	John J. North.	91 W. A. Smith 556
43.	George E. Steele.	1,700 10 David White 571
48.	Patron Grano	2,000 10 Benjamin Chapman 948
53.	Chirimaco.	4,215 10 Harry Gasp. 949
60.	D. McLean.	2,500 10 A. T. White 1,530
62.	F. A. Kelly.	18,156 10 Whaley Bros. 5,377
69.	Andrew Jackson.	1,000 10 Susan Cooper b. Flecknoe 3,97
73.	James Clarke.	192 10 E. B. Burzaga 3,97
73.	Burzaga Bros.	192 Total 31,090,000
93.	Francis Boyd.	1,358

Eleven claims have been remanded as not within the competency of the Commission, viz:

No.	Name.
26.	Samuel Peake
35.	Friedrich Wille
35.	Günzler, Edmundson & Co.
41.	Miller & Co.
47.	Pernian Guano Company.
58.	John J. North
61.	John E. Steele
63.	London Bank of Mexico.
65.	Campbell, Jones & Co.
116.	Susan Cooper b. Flecknoe
118.	Mercedes Reid b. Mendez.

One has been remanded in the same way in part only, viz:

73. William Speedie.

In these the rights of the claimant are not affected by the fact that his case has been presented to the Commission.

All persons entitled to receive money, either in virtue of an award or in consequence of the acceptance of a claim, are hereby invited to apply to the British Legation at Santiago for the amount that may be due to them, either personally or through a duly accredited Agent. If personally,

evidence of identity, certified by a British Consular Officer, must be produced, as thus:

[Signature of the Claimant].

"I hereby declare that the above signature is that of — a claimant before the Anglo-Chilian Commission of Arbitration, Claim No. —, personally known to me as such.

[Date].

[Signature of Consular Officer]."

If through an Agent, the person accredited must present a Power of Attorney from the claimant stating that the person issuing it is known to the Consul, who attests it, to be the claimant in the particular claim specified. Persons having no agents or acquaintances in Santiago or Valparaíso can send Powers, if they think fit, to Mr. J. Henry Thomas, British Vice-Consul at Santiago and Agent for claims, or to Mr. W. H. Newman, H. M.'s Consul at Valparaíso.

It has not been easy to compute exactly the total value of all the claims presented to the Commission. They are stated in various currencies, and a question of the value of these currencies at a given date has arisen to make the task more difficult. The following is a reduction of all denominations to a scale of silver dollars at thirty-eight pence (\$8d.) to the dollar:

Value of all presented \$7,724,452.07 £1,223,038.41

Do. claims remanded \$5,376,197.63 £ 882,897.19

Do. judged and arranged 2,148,251.44 £ 349,149.59

Total \$7,24,452.07 £1,223,038.41

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—The October receipts of the sub-treasury in Mato Grosso amounted to 17,167\$28.

—The city of Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, contains 4,022 houses, indicating a population of about 25,000.

—The São Paulo planters are now freely making contracts with the freedmen for service on their plantations. The wages paid are not high, but an adjustment in that respect will come in good time.

—On the night of the 7th inst. an "unpleasantness" occurred in Uberaba, a party of men breaking into the house of Lieut.-Col. Sampaio and ordering him to leave the place next day, under threats of death. He accordingly left. The same persons on the next day attacked the residence of the *júiz de direito* of that district and ordered him to clear out, and then they went to the *júiz municipal* and ordered him to resign. The mob evidently does not appreciate the judiciary.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The October receipts of the Rio do Ouro railway amounted to 9,250\$82.

—The December traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway were 294,877\$50, of which passengers produced 77,512\$50, and goods 185,634\$40.

—The government has granted the proprietors of the Santa Iherexa "inclined plane" another year in which to extend that road on the Hailhidi system.

—The October traffic receipts of the Norte railway are officially stated to have been 26,938\$298, and the expenses 5,611\$220. This appears very satisfactory.

—A provincial decree, dated on the 2nd, grants an interest guarantee of 6 per cent. on an additional capital of 600,000\$ to the São Anna railway, province of Rio de Janeiro, to extend the line to S. João do Príncipe, under certain conditions.

—The Ituana company, São Paulo, has recently raised about 60,000\$ by subscription to complete its extension from Charqueada to S. Pedro, a distance of 23 kilometres, and it is expected that the works will now be carried forward without further delay.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* of the 8th inst. states that an English company, to be known as the "Rio de Janeiro and Northern Railway Company, Limited," has purchased the Norte line. The capital of the company is £500,000, issued through Messrs. Morton, Rose & Co., and was all taken.

—An important project has just been referred to the president of S. Paulo by the minister of agriculture for information. It is an application for a ninety year's privilege for the construction of a circular railway to commence at Porto Feliz, on the Itapetininga branch of the Sorocabana railway, and cutting this line, the Ituana, Rio Claro, Paulista, Mogiyanas, and S. Paulo and Rio lines also, terminates at Santos. Among the advantages claimed for the scheme are that it will promote rapid communication with provincial centres, and that freights can be reduced 50 per cent. So many important interests are likely to be attacked by this project, that its success seems extremely doubtful.

COFFEE NOTES

—A telegram to the *Gazeta de Notícias*, dated Pirapetinga, Minas Geraes, on the 8th inst., states that with the rains a new blossoming had appeared on the coffee trees, but it was thought this would fail, as the fruit on the trees was already abundant.

—The drought, which was intense, burnt up some of the coffee of the coming crop and caused it to fail. Our opinion, based on the information we have collected, is that those interested should not count, for 1888-89, upon more than 5,000,000 bags. *Jornal do Comércio*, Jan. 8th.

—On the 12th inst. the minister of justice declared to the *Junta Commercial* that it had proceeded well in ordering that the so-called coffee exchange should not come into operation; for merchandise brokers may not realize operations on the exchange, nor create an exchange for the purchase, or sale, of coffee at auction.

—The *Times* of Ceylon of November 17th estimates the 1888 coffee crop at 165,000 cwt., against a shipment for 1887 of 180,429 cwt. The *Times* says: "Our estimate for coffee is 165,000 cwt., but it is not without some misgiving that we place the amount so high, and only in consequence of strong opinions expressed by friends whose opportunities for arriving at a right conclusion are unrivaled. Taking both the autumn and the spring crops, this has been an exceptionally good blossoming season. In the good old days such a season would have seen nearly a million cwt. leave the island. Now, alas! it is not able to produce more than one-sixth of that quantity—nay, the year's output will not equal that of the last, notwithstanding many advantageous circumstances."

LOCAL NOTES

—The Ouro Preto Gold Mines of Brazil, Limited, has received authorization to transact business in Brazil.

—The minister of marine has sent to Europe after a new electric light apparatus for the ironclad *Aquidabán*.

—The contract for the Osorio monument seems to have been definitely secured by Bernadelli, who is soon to go to Italy for the required material. The monument is to be completed in three years.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* in its annual review seems to have attacked a wasp's nest in pointing out that the minister of finance is not a perfectly infallible financial genius.

—Conselheiro João Manoel Pereira da Silva, the indefatigable candidate for a seat in the Senate from Rio de Janeiro, was at last chosen for that honor on the 9th, although he received the lowest vote of the three candidates elected.

—The minister of agriculture returned here on the 9th, after a short visit to S. Paulo, where he was enthusiastically received, dined, etc. From reports in the press the minister and Senator Prado appear to be on very friendly terms.

—The Villa Isabel zoological garden is now open and drawing well. A terra cotta lion is soon to be added to the collection, and perhaps a Rua do Ouvilior specimen will occasionally lend grace to the enclosure.

—On the 3rd the minister of agriculture asked the Treasury to pay 2,000\$ for 500 copies of the "Revista Antropológica". The price does not seem excessive, but what is this anthropologic review any way?

—If the *Jornal* will permit a trifling correction, we would say that the founder of the astronomical observatory on Mt. Hamilton, California, was James Lick, not "James Sink." It is sometimes important to know a man's real name.

—The manager of the New York Life Insurance Company notifies the creditors of the Beethoven Club that all accounts are to be presented to him for conference. It is a mistake, however, to call this a Yankee dodge to make insurance canvassing easy.

—The arms and munitions ordered in March of last year for the military police force of this city cost 61,162\$240. But, what are policemen to do with repeating rifles, carbines and cartridges? Do they eat them? Or is the Cetogé cabinet preparing for some anticipated trouble?

—We have to record the arrival of Col. Labre, the Bolivian explorer, on the American packet *Advance*. Col. Labre has made extensive journeys on the upper Amazon and its tributaries and is credited with the discovery of a new and practicable route between Bolivia and the Amazon.

—An annual prize of 500\$ has been recently instituted by Dr. R. H. Gunning at the Lycée de Artes e Ofícios and denominated "Imperador do Brasil," to commemorate the restoration of the Emperor's health. The prize will be conferred upon the pupil who, in the judgment of the director, best merits this distinction.

—The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Portuguese consulate here, according to telegrams received from Lisbon and dated on the 4th inst., declare that there is a deficit of some 207,000\$, but that there are no frauds in the book-keeping, nor any peculation on the part of the employés of the consulate. Perhaps the 207,000\$ walked out by itself!

—*O País* of the 10th states that there are rumors here that orders have been given to withdraw from northern provinces two battalions of regular troops in addition to those already arrived here from the south, and by April the garrison will reach 3,700 men. What this concentration may mean *O País* does not state, but it is certainly disquieting as there are no symptoms of disorder here.

—The total cost of the public gas supply of this city for the past year was 582,052\$357, including costs of exchange to the amount of 54,162\$897. The total number of burners at the opening of the year was 6,310, and at the end 6,654. The gas consumed amounted to a total of 2,514,535 cubic metres, which under the English company's prices would have cost 724,859\$238. The gas supplied, however, was very inferior in quality.

—A new way to collect bad debts, to travesty the old English comedy, has been discovered by a professional "duo" here. On the 7th one of his customers refused payment, whereupon the "duo" brought a bed and bedding, his toilet requisites, etc., and proceeded to camp on the sidewalk before the door of the recalcitrant debtor. He hung up a ruck on which he placed his hat and coat, produced a candle, and was making himself comfortable when the police interfered, sending the pickpocket to jail and his traps to the public deposit. Debtors must be protected!

—The import duties on raw and refined sugars in Italy have been increased by 11½ *liras* per 100 kilogrammes.

—The city's gas bill for December amounted to 42,054\$467, including 2,859\$080 differences in exchange. The globe gas bill for the suburbs cost an additional sum of 15,305\$156.

—We regret to note the death, a few days since, of Dr. Domingos Soares Ferreira Penna, of Pará, who is widely known for the intelligent medical work he gave to Agassiz, Hartt, and other naturalists visiting the Amazon.

—It would seem from a perusal of the aldermanic proceedings that reforms at the Santa Cruz slaughter house are never to be ended. Why not sell the old barracks, and turn the parasites adrift? It would certainly improve the beef.

—It would afford a welcome relief to the great majority of the people of this city if the municipal council would repress the customary musical preparations for Carnival. It is bad enough to be obliged to stand three days of riot, but to have it preceded by a whole month of drums, horns and howls is just a little wearing on the nerves.

—Since our last issue the telegraph has reported a very great increase in the epidemic of cholera now raging in Chili. The latest news, however, show some diminution in the number of cases. On the 12th there were 45 new cases and 11 deaths in Santiago, and 37 new cases and 19 deaths in Valparaiso. On the 3rd inst. there were 108 new cases and 56 deaths in Valparaiso and 109 new cases and 36 deaths in Santiago. The people were reported as fleeing from the two cities in terror, but have since recovered their courage.

—On the 12th the *Paiz* published a telegram from S. Bento, Rio Grande do Sul, stating that the municipal council had adopted a proposition to petition the General Assembly, through the provincial assembly, for a plebiscite of the nation on the question whether in the event of the Emperor's death it is convenient to leave the succession in the hands of a princess inclined to religious fanaticism and married to a foreign prince. An invitation is extended to all the other municipal bodies of the province to adopt a similar resolution.

—A burglar was cleverly caught in a house in this city a few nights ago. The mistress of the house was awakened by his trying to open an inside door. Instead of screaming, she slipped out another way, fastened the outside door which he had forced, and sent for the police. The fellow was fairly trapped, and was taken to the lock-up by the police. On the following day, however, the police authorities called upon the occupants of the house for competent witnesses—catching the fellow in the house and with burglar's tools not appearing to be sufficient testimony.

—The commission appointed by the Dutch government to investigate the character and causes of *beri-beri*, which has caused so many deaths among the Dutch soldiers stationed in the East Indian possessions of that country, has announced results very similar to those obtained by Dr. Lacerda, of the Museu Nacional in this city. A micro-organism has been found in the blood of *beri-beri* patients which when injected into the veins of animals causes the same disease. The same organism was found in the air of rooms occupied by patients, from which it appears to be infectious. Great care in disinfection, ventilation and cleanliness is recommended.

—In October last complaints were made to the government of the dangers to navigation caused by the projecting masts of the *Bahia* sunk off the coast of Goyanna. The gunboat *Lamego* was finally sent to the place to take whatever measures might be necessary. On his return the commander of the *Lamego* reported that he could find nothing and presumed that the masts had disappeared. Quite recently, the wreck was seen from the coasting steamer *Prayanna*, showing that they have either reappeared, or that the commander of the *Lamego* did not make a very careful search. When the government has any important service of that kind to do, perhaps it would be advisable to hire a fisherman to attend to it.

—A rough, called Narciso, entered an eating house on Rua d'Alfandega a few days since and ordered a dinner. At its conclusion, he started to leave the place without paying, when the proprietor stopped him and demanded the amount due. Narciso at once created a disturbance and tried to get away, when a policeman aided by some spectators, secured him, took a large knife away from him, and then carried him to the police station. In a subsequent attempt to search him, Narciso drew a small knife, wounded a couple of policemen and was safely secured only with great difficulty. On his way to prison he expressed great regret that he had not been able to kill one of the policemen. This cutthroat and dead-beat is a fair specimen of the Rio *capoeira* of which so much has been said.

—The cable between this city and Bahia is again broken.

—The Argentine Republic received 137,000 immigrants last year.

—Dr. Salvador de Mendoça, Brazilian consul general at New York, arrived here on the 9th by the *Advance*.

—A session of the full council of state has been called for the 18th to discuss an extraordinary credit for precautionary measures against the introduction of cholera into Brazil.

—Cholera appears to have again broken out in the Argentine Republic. The *Nación* of the 12th affirmed the existence of about 70 cases in the city of Salta, with 5 deaths on the preceding day.

—The many friends of Dr. O. A. Derby, director of the geological section of the National Museum, will be pleased to hear that he has been elected a corresponding member of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

—The guide published by the province of Rio de Janeiro for immigrants has on its title page *Emigrado* (emigration). It is an ominous mistake, for these appears to be rather more of the latter, than of the former, at present in the province.

—This year's crop of B. A.'s at the Pedro II college reaches 12. As about 490,000\$ is annually voted for this college, graduates cost the unhappy taxpayer a little over 40,000\$ per head. It seems clear, if the usefulness of the manufacture article be taken into consideration.

—Brazilian titles are unique to an extreme. A citizen has just been created Baron of Good Luck (*Bárão de Boa Sorte*), but he appears to have discovered the absurdity of the title, and it will probably be changed. We have all along been apprised that once the geographical names in Brazil are exhausted, the steady demand for titles will cause some difficulty in arranging good combinations.

—We regret to see that the *Jornal* of the 12th has undertaken to explain the recent rise in exchange, but we rejoice to see that our colleague recognizes what we have preached: that there is not too much money (currency), and that a banking law of some kind has become necessary. Exchange in Rio is one of those things that, as Lord Dunraven says, "no fellow understands."

—A daily colleague, in defending our *Associação Commercial* against a charge of inertia, considers that the publication of the annual report is sufficient to render the *Associação* worthy of applause, and confesses to have availed of information derived from these reports. The *Associação* is now several years behind-hand with its reports, and if the information derived by the defender is equally fresh, we pity the readers of the journal in question.

—Foot baths are cleanly and healthful, but they are most advantageously taken at home. A rainy day in Rio, through the miserable system, by which the water from the house-tops is thrown upon the sidewalks, is a day of execrations to the unfortunate who is obliged to "foot" it in our streets, and their foot-baths are innumerable. Surely it would not be difficult to have the water-spouts connected with the surface water drains, and so permit only a moderate amount of inconvenience to the foot-passenger.

—The minister of empire has authorized the continuation of the Rvry "trairage" works during the current year. The drainage in question will principally affect the Treasury. In the meantime, the completion of the Engenho Novo pumping station, which is to cost the Treasury nothing, remains embargoed simply because the government claims the land on which the station is being erected, and which the City Improvements Co. purchased for a high price at its own cost! This is called enlightened administration.

—The *Prensa* of Buenos Aires has discovered a very interesting and ingenious argument to prove that the Argentine Republic is now receiving the largest immigration ever known in any country. The proposition is that as the Argentine Republic with a population of 4,000,000 received 125,000 immigrants last year, while the United States received a maximum of 600,000, when its population was 45,000,000, therefore the former leads the record. It is a queer basis for a mathematical conclusion, but it sounds well all the same.

—According to an article in the paid columns of the *Jornal* the New York Life Insurance Co. recently submitted a question to the most important policy-holders in Pará as to whether the company should pay the insurance on the life of a man whose death was due to the use of alcoholic liquors, notwithstanding the fact that a clause in the policy exempted the company from such payment. The Pará people decided that the insurance should be paid in full, as might have been expected, which will be done. Would it not be well for the company to now strike out that clause, as the precedent established will make such payments necessary hereafter?

SANTOS.

From Messrs. John Bradshaw & Co's Market Report, dated January 2nd.

Copper.—Opening strong at the advance, our market eased off a touch, but has since hardened and closed steady. Exchange has advanced, increasing sterling cost and hampering operations considerably.

Receipts have averaged 3,473 bags, against 11,538 bags in 1885 and 6,911 bags in 1883. Since July 1st to date they reach 614,960 bags, against 1,8,656 bags 1883 and 1,045,133 bags in 1885.

Exports remain sales of 109,000 bags.

Stocks are down to 277,000 bags in first hands and 23,000 bags in second hands, against 368,000 bags last month.

Loading 54,000 bags.

Shipments for the month: United States, 38,704 bags, Europe 117,104 bags and Rio and coast 779; total 156,587 bags.

The clearances have been:

United States: 38,704 bags.

New York: 38,704 bags.

Europe: 117,104 bags.

Havre: 60,438 bags.

Antwerp: 1,513 bags.

Hamburg: 33,158 bags.

Bremen: 1,500 bags.

London: 3,398 bags.

Trieste: 11,396 bags.

Genoa: 3,374 bags.

Marseilles: 2,253 bags.

Venice: 500 bags.

Rio and coast: 779 bags.

156,587 bags.

Total clearances of Coffee from Santos during six months of crop-years.

DESTINATION 1887-8 1886-87 1885-86

UNITED STATES Bags. Bags. Bags.

New York 144,723 230,471 184,913

Baltimore 1,513 1,513

Haven Roads f. o. 10,000

Sandy Hook f.o. 1,500

Richmond 1,500

Charleston 1,500

Savannah 1,500

Mobile 1,500

New Orleans 1,820 1,810

Galveston 1,500

Port Eads f. o. 1,500

Total 144,723 230,351 207,381

EUROPE

Channel F. o. 19,810 3,200 11,800

Havre 1,513 1,513 1,513

Antwerp 1,513 235,244 1,513 406

North of Europe & Baltic 1,513 490 1,513 378

England 9,111 74,438 9,080

Bordeaux 500 500 500

Lisbon f. o. 5,000 20,350 5,000

Gibraltar f. o. 4,050 4,050

Genoa 5 5

Mediterranean 73,933 168,793 138,043

Total 442,916 1,056,881 682,512

ELSEWHERE

Canada 2,411 3,379 3,419

Cape of Good Hope 2,411 3,379 3,419

River Plate & West Coast 2,411 3,379 3,419

Rio and coast 2,411 3,379 3,419

Total 2,411 3,379 5,910

UNITED STATES

144,723 232,351 207,382

Europe 444,990 1,556,881 682,522

Elsewhere 2,411 3,379 5,910

Total 590,973 1,924,602 893,814

Total clearances of Coffee from Santos for the years:

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1888

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.. 24	Mondego.....	Southampton and Antwerp calling at Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon and Vigo.

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New York.....	£145	£75	"
" & back.....	£275	"	"

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